CHAPTER H-5: JUDGING

A. JUDGING PANELS

1. For all National competitions, including National Trials competitions, the Chair of the National Officials Committee, or a person designated by the Chair **(Meet Referee)**, shall select the Judging Panel, including event referee and event judges and balk judge as applicable, for each event (including any preliminary sessions).

2. Selection of the Judging Panels shall be made at least one day prior to the scheduled first day of competition on the basis of the list of National Senior and/or Junior Officials, confirmation of whose availability has been provided to Diving Canada prior to or on the same day.

3. These Judging Panels shall be presented at a meeting of the coaches on the day prior to the scheduled first day of competition and the coaches in attendance shall have the ⇨ **opportunity to voice concerns and panels may be adjusted where possible and practical**.

4. In order to avoid any conflict of interest, real or perceived, a parent may not judge or referee his or her own child in any Diving Canada sanctioned event. An official violating this rule will risk losing his/her status with the Diving Canada Officials **Program**. Whenever possible, coaches/judges do not judge an event in which there is a diver that he/she coaches frequently during the season.

5. The Referee may only judge when it is not feasible to run the event otherwise.

B. JUDGING PANELS/SCORING - SENIORS

1. The FINA rules shall apply in scoring each dive in each event, except as follows:

   a. A seven (7) judge panel will be used for both preliminary/semi-final and final events, and a nine (9) or eleven (11) panel for synchro events.

   b. A maximum of one (1) apprentice may be selected for any one (1) judging panel.

2. Judging Panels at World Aquatic Championship Trials and Olympic Games Trials will consist of seven (7) qualified Senior National Officials. If these Trials are incorporated into regular National Championships, then a seven (7) judge panel as described will be used in the appropriate qualification event (ie: preliminaries, semi-finals and finals if all count in the selection process; finals only if the finals count).

C. JUDGING PANELS/SCORING - JUNIORS

1. The FINA rules shall apply in scoring each dive in each event, except as follows:

   a. The Judging Panel for each Group C or D event shall consist of seven (7) qualified or apprentice National Junior Officials along with one (1) referee. A maximum of two (2) apprentices may be selected for any one (1) judging panel with seven (7) judges when there are enough judges available to fill the panels. In situations where there are not enough judges, five (5) qualified or apprentice National Junior Officials along with one (1) referee may be used. A maximum of one (1) apprentice may be selected for any one (1) Judging Panel with five (5) judges.

   b. The Judging Panel for each Group A or B shall consist of seven (7) qualified or apprentice National Junior officials. A maximum of two (2) apprentices may be selected for any one (1) Judging Panel with seven (7) judges.

D. JUDGING PANELS/SCORING – OTHER SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS

1. For all senior and junior qualification competitions, the meet referee must be a senior national level official. The meet referee shall be assigned by the officials' chair of the province in which the qualification competition is held. Assistance in naming a meet referee will be given to those

provinces that do not have access to a Senior National Official.

2. Judging panels for individual events shall consist of a minimum of five (5) judges for junior and senior qualification competitions. A seven (7) judge panel may be used for synchronized diving events with (four) 4 judges for execution and three (3) for synchronization.

3. Judges must be a Diving Canada (or other country) registered official or coach (minimum Competition-Introduction trained (or equivalent); Level 1 Technical will be accepted for this season).
   a) No more than two (2) coaches from the same club may be on a panel - but it is preferred that only one be used.
   b) No more than one Level 1 Provincial Official may be on a panel at a Group 1 meet.
   c) No more than two Level 1 Provincial Officials may be on a panel at a Group 2 meet.
   d) Current registered competitive divers may not be on a panel (Masters divers excepted)

4. In order to avoid any conflict of interest real or perceived, a parent may not judge or referee his/her own child in any Diving Canada sanctioned competition. An official violating this rule will risk losing his/her status with Diving Canada Officials Program. Whenever possible, coaches/judges do not judge an event in which there is a diver that he/she coaches frequently during the season.

E. MEET REFEREE RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITY AT COMPETITIONS

(Nationals Championships, Trials, and all other DPC sanctioned events, including provincials and invitationals)

The list below includes areas that the meet referee at all Diving Canada sanctioned events has the authority on which to take action and make decisions. With the exception of national championship events, the meet referee is the person in charge of the conduct of the competition and serves as the “meet jury of appeal” at competitions. This list attempts to highlight the key areas but is not exhaustive and is subject to updating on a

regular basis.

1. Safety
   a) Address any safety concerns regarding equipment (springboards, fulcrums, platform surface), lighting, spectator seating, behavior or other types of concerns that may be brought to the meet referee’s attention.
   b) Require safety precautions to be followed
   c) Contract a Diving Canada Equipment Officer if deemed necessary to inspect equipment prior to a national competition.

2. Judging Panels
   a) Confirm composition of Meet and Event Juries of Appeal
   b) Assign qualified referee and judges to panels per the Diving Canada Rule Book and Hand Book
   c) Present panels at coaches/technical meeting
   d) Fill open spots with coaches (per the Diving Canada Rule Book and Hand Book)
   e) Disallow an event to be used as a qualifying event if the panels are not full or only non-qualified officials are available.
   f) Declare that the meet referee is the communication link for any concerns with the judging; request that the coaches come through the meet referee immediately when there is a concern.
   g) Check to ensure that a list of the judges for each event is input into the computer program.
   h) Identify host reports needed, including:
      i) Referee sheet for the referee and number board (if manual); and
      ii) Recorder sheet for shadow judges.

3. Dive Sheets and Table Verification
   a) Verify all electronic dive sheets are printed at the competition, and not in advance. Ensure all dive sheets are signed.
   b) Verify all changes to dive sheets are initialed by the diver, the changes have been entered into the program and a new dive sheet has been generated. The new sheet should be stapled on top of the original sheet and be signed by the athlete or coach. **Referee sheets**

should be generated *after* all the dive sheet changes are finalized.

c) Check competitor dive sheets on the computer for errors and for dive lists not yet entered
d) Check any DDs that are not on the FINA list.
e) Verify the scoring table(s) have two independent computers for each event plus a shadow and that all 3 systems are checked for matching following each dive.
f) At event end, ensure event referee notes time of event end and that this is recorded on the results sheet.
g) Ensure mixed events are de-merged into male and female events.
h) At event end, ensure event referee checks summary sheet against computer screen to ascertain the totals match and signs off the results.
i) Disallow a diver entrance into a competition if he/she is not a registered member of DPC or other FINA-recognized federation.

4. MMS Software
   a) Ensure that the latest version of the software is being used.
   b) Verify rules in the software (by email in advance or at the competition) and ensure corrections as required.

5. Liaise with Announcer
   a) Clarify expectations for different situations during the competition.
   b) Set up communication system between announcer and event referee so that there is quick understanding when a delay is needed either from the announcer to the Referee or the Referee to the announcer.

6. Placement of Judges – to be considered prior to the start of the events:
   a) Consideration of the lighting and how it affects the view of the judges.
   b) Consideration of the deck space or obstacles to judging from certain areas.
   c) Location, arrangement of chairs and height of chairs for springboard, platform and synchronized diving events.
   d) Ensure a balk judge has been appointed by the host club.

   e) Ensure clear deck space around the panel and between the panel, table and announcer, and competition area.

7. During competition
   a) Chair the Meet Jury of Appeals
   b) Verify Event referee chairs the Event Jury of Appeal
   c) Disallow an event to be used as a qualifying event if he/she deems the judging to be inappropriate.
   d) Provide input to proposed schedule changes after the competition has started. If necessary remove a judge from a panel - preferably at the end of a round
   e) Warn or evict from the meet anyone whose behavior is unacceptable.

8. Officials
   a) Identify those needing to write the Officials Exam and arrange the timing to do so.
   b) Establish dates, times and place of all meetings and distribute to the participating officials.
   c) Chair breakfast meeting with all officials
   d) Ensure the officials adhere to the Officials Code of Conduct.
   e) Chair meetings with the apprentices to discuss the rules and their interpretations.
   f) Oversee any apprentice programs present at the event and ensure needs are met and feedback provided.

9. Report and Evaluations
   a) Make notes during competition of unusual circumstances, appeals, questionable judgment.
   b) Monitor and evaluate judges, as required.
   c) Hold discussions, as deemed appropriate, after events on issues, appeals, recommendations, etc.
   d) Lead evaluation group in the evaluation of apprentice judges and follow up with a written evaluation.
   e) Provide a report to the Diving Canada National Office.